Empire State

ARCHITECT

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Empire State Architect

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Publisher — Julian L. Kahle, 232 Anderson Place, Buffalo, New York.

SCHOLARSHIPS IN ARCHITECTURE

The Colleg of Fine Arts, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York announces the following five scholarships in Architecture.

One $400.00 and four $200.00 scholarships to be granted by competition on Saturday, July 10, 1943. The competition will be in two fields—drawing and preparatory school record. (1) Contestants must send to the College of Fine Arts not later than Thursday, July 1st, a portfolio containing not more than 20 examples of their work in free-hand and mechanical drawing together with three letters of recommendation as to personality, character and general fitness. Judging the drawings by a committee of the Architecture Faculty will take place on Saturday, July 10. (2) The High School records of all contestants will be carefully examined by the Director of Admissions and the Architecture Faculty Committee to determine fitness for a course in Architecture. Special attention will be given to ability in high school mathematics.

Each portfolio of drawings, etc., must contain the name and address of the student contestant and a statement from the student's high school principal that the drawings, etc., in the portfolio are the original work of the student submitting them.

All portfolios sent in will be returned after the contest by Express collect.

Each contestant must be a graduate of an accredited High School, and must, on or before June 25, apply to the Director of Admissions, Administration Building, Syracuse University, for entrance to the College of Fine Arts as a regular student, and submit a recommendation from his High School principal as to his character, health and ability. Only those who have met all entrance requirements and have been accepted as regular students without condition by the Director of Admissions will be permitted to take part in the competition. Applications for entrance must be accompanied by the required $5.00 marticulation fee.

Scholarships may be held for 5 years, provided the student maintains a C plus (80%) average each year.

All correspondence regarding admission should be addressed to Dr. F. N. Bryant, Director of Admissions, Administration Building, Syracuse, N. Y.

All correspondence regarding the competition and letters of recommendations should be addressed to Dean H. L. Butler, College of Fine Arts, Syracuse, N. Y.

It is with much pleasure that we welcome Talbot F. Hamlin as a new member of the Editorial Board of the EMPIRE STATE ARCHITECT.

As a member of this Board he will assist and guide in developing the policy and ideals of the publication to the ends that most timely articles of greatest interest to the profession will appear in the remaining issues for the year.

PLEASE

That roster postcard. Remember? Did you fill in the blanks and mail the card? If you did not, do so immediately, for a complete roster of our members is scheduled for publication in the July-August issue.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

APRIL 10th, 1943

The Directors, reading from left to right around the table: George A. Boehm, Martyn N. Weinstein, Lorimer Rich, August Lux, James Wm. Kideney, Ralph E. Winslow, Charles Rockwell Ellis, John T. Briggs, Albert A. Rumschik, Adolph Goldberg. And from left to right in the second row to the right of the table: Sidney L. Strauss, William Tilden Koch, Charles C. Platt.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE:

I am happy to announce the personnel of the Committee on Public Information:

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This Committee is charged with the responsibility of:

(a) Development of a program within the profession to inform the public of the status, function and importance of the architect in the planning and construction.

(b) To intergrate this program in the local associations and chapters with the State Association, and any national or regional program which may be developed.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

The complete personnel of the Membership Committee for the current year is as follows:

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CHARLES ROCKWELL ELLIS
President

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

APRIL 10th, 1943

Gotham in the spring must have lured our up-state Directors for they voted to hold our spring meeting here; so at 10:10 A.M. on April 10, 1943 we met at the Architectural League, New York City, and promptly convened under the gavel of President Ellis. Present were Messrs. Ellis, Lux, Kideney, Strauss, Goldberg, Weinstein, Platt, Winslow, Boehm, Koch, Rich, Rumschik, Briggs, and then in the afternoon, Treasurer Cantor arrived from, of all places, Buffalo. As you see, some Committee Chairmen were present.

President Ellis called for Treasurer Cantor's report, which was read by Secretary Briggs. It was an ad interim report. The Treasurer was requested to send out bills with request for immediate payment of dues. The Chair ordered the Directors to secure from their members filled out Rosters postals, so long requested by the Secretary, and have them mailed to the Secretary. The Secretary was directed to prepare and forward to Secretary Ingham the proper information for the AIA, as soon as practical, as required by our affiliation agreement; also the Treasurer was directed to pay our State Association affiliate dues before the Cincinnati Convention. All current bills were ordered paid.

Next Chairman Platt of the Legislative Committee was recognized and reported, assisted by Legislative Representative Briggs. Besides the Bills in the hands of the Governor, (see elsewhere in E.S.A. for a full report on them and on the Session) he spoke upon the mechanics of a more effective Committee operation. Every year this Association's Committees should work more effectively you know. So after a full discussion by every Director, they voted the following instructions to the succeeding Committee: (1) Our Legislative Committee should have among its members the Chairman of Legislative Committees of each of our Member Bodies; he must accept this appointment in writing. (2) The Association Legislative Committee shall consider bills affecting professional practice throughout the State. It shall keep the local committees informed on local bills; (3) and may act on local bills with discretion when requested.

Chairman Jim Kideney of the Education Committee reported on a visit he and President Ellis had at Albany on April 8th, 1943. A resolution was adopted directing the president to request the Corning Glass Works to make an investigation of glass in blackboards.

After general discussion it was resolved that the Committees in public work and post-war planning should jointly endeavor to establish in New York State a commission similar to the Fine Arts Commission of Washington and the Municipal Arts Commission of New York.

At this point, we recessed for sufficient time to be "mugged". See elsewhere in E.S.A. our photos en masse. And Mr. Koch took occasion to present the 1943 New York Society of Architects Year Book to each Director.

Post War Public Works Planning was announced by the Chair as our topic and Co-Chairman Briggs read Chairman Walker's report. The Committee recommended (1) post war plan shelf, (2) that the architect plan beyond the building itself, (3) the initiation of legislation (a) for the improvement of the private architect's status after the war, (b) for the general overall planning of the local communities in which the architects live. After discussion, the following resolution by Mr. Rich was passed; namely, that this report to be returned to the Chairman with the request that the report break down in detail architectural projects in the State, with an accompanying list of projects. The three million post war planning bill (before the Governor) was discussed. The Secretary was directed to send Governor Dewey a telegram, favoring the Post War Public Works Planning Bill.

Chairman Boehm of the Committte on Constitution and By-Laws, reported tentatively that he and Sid Strauss were working on certain improvements and that as soon as the full Committee had met, these would then be submitted to the Directors for study and suggestions, after which suggestions received would then be collected and sent to Directors for adoption by letter ballot. The Directors would have 60 days to confer with their Constituent Organization before voting. Mr. Boehm mentioned that probably the new Constitution would contain the provision that every architect on the rolls of each Constituent Organization would be a member of the State Association thereby, and would be paid for by that Constituent Organization, though at a lesser rate than now.

President Ellis now read a communication from the Louisiana Architects Association regarding H O L C fees. We were in sympathy with just compensation for architects; but as this is a National matter, it was ordered forwarded to the A.I.A. for their action.

A notice of State Association's meeting one day previous to the regular A.I.A. Cincinnati Convention, containing ten (10) subjects on the agenda, was discussed and the recommendation made to be forwarded to State Director, Matt Del Gaudio, that he confine this one day's work to fewer subjects more thoroughly discussed. It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the Board of Directors should be the delegates of this Association to both the conference and the annual meeting. In the event any director is unable to attend he may designate another member of his organization in his stead. Any vacancies then remaining shall be filled by the president.

Safety in homes and farm buildings, now becoming vocal through a large lay Committee will be the subject of co-operation with Association Committees to be appointed by President Ellis. You will hear from him. Be prepared to address groups.

Our publication, the Empire State Architect, some think is in need of a new cover design so Bill Lescaze was chosen to effectuate same. No fee voted. A letter from our publisher, Julian Kahle, was read regarding a Contractors' Directory therein. The Directors have no objection to such a list. Mr. Kahle is to use any of the Standard Contractors' or sub-contractors' lists to secure such material. They also request the publisher to adhere closely to publication dates. The July-August number will be the Roster and By-Laws Number.

There will be a one day meeting of members and of the Board of Directors at the end of the year in New York City. All architects will be invited.

The desirability of Junior and/or Student membership for each Constituent Organization was discussed. Also discussed was a class of membership whereby every architect by virtue of his registration is a member of this Association.

By now it was close to 6 P.M., so we welcomed the gavel's cluck terminating this session. After a few quick hand-shakes, each went his way pondering.

JOHN T. BRIGGS, *Secretary.*

A PROFESSIONAL OUTLOOK

By A. V. McIver, *President, Montana Chapter, A.I.A.*
Being a letter to Mr. Harlan Thomas, Director, Western Mountain District, The American Institute of Architects

I have a chip on my shoulder and I might as well get it off now. I have been reading in the AIA Bulletin from Washington, D. C., the "Washington Situation" in the Octagon, and articles in the Architectural magazines with no satisfaction and with some concern. It seems that, from these articles, architecture as a profession is in a sad plight and must soon fade out of the picture. To all of this I do not subscribe. At last comes a ray of hope in the "Message from the President" in the January Octagon, except that he did not make it strong enough. I refer to his sixth paragraph. If we keep moaning and groaning it won't take the public long to think that we really are sick and are in dire need of a period of convalescense. I do not look forward to that period.

I hear so often of the old bugaboo about the engineers being the chosen people and that nobody wants the architects. If that be true, and I doubt it, whose fault is it? It would mean that somewhere we have fallen down. Having taken a combined course in civil engineering and architecture and having practiced in both fields, perhaps I view the situation in a different light. The government has treated the architect with some degree of fairness in keeping the word "architect" before the public and in giving the major projects of the war program to architects. The firms doing professional work are known as Architect-Engineers even tho the work is strictly engineering. The contracts themselves are known as architect-engineer contracts and all the documents are signed as such. The important and complicated projects have all been under the direction of architects. I have recently looked over the plans of the Pentagon in Washington and fully realize the handicaps under which it was designed. Still, I duck when I have questions thrown at me relative to its merits. The chance of a grand solution to such an important building was muffed, and sad to say the tenant, being the War Department, is the boss at the moment. Architecture certainly didn't gain anything in its building. Are we sure we have lived up to our opportunities?

As you know, I have until recently been connected with the Corps of Engineers doing special work with Architect-engineers. I came to know many architects from all over the country. The great majority of them were splendid and fully realized the problem. Some were still living in the "good old days", with flares of temperament, demanding comfortable quarters and offices, and with utter desregard for procedure, speed, substitution of materials, standardization, etc., and some had a distinct loathing for their presence on the projects. Unfortunately, these few cried longer and louder than the rest and created a bad impression on those in charge. Others stayed at home and practiced wishful thinking. Any architect who has the right to use the word after his name can find gainful occupation in the war program. Maybe it won't be in the sanctum of his own office and perhaps he won't be addressed as the boss, but at least he can earn a comfortable living. Who wants more under these conditions?

Those who cry that architecture is a decadent profession are 100% wrong. It isn't possible for one generation to have such an ill effect on the oldest of the arts. As an art and a science it is the symbol of life, as we understand life, and the forerunner of culture. Out of the embers of this holacust will come a new culture tried by fire and lasting. The wounds have been too deep for civilization to regain its balance and poise without a specialist. Such a specialist must needs be the architect. His training entitles him to the task. The profession should take stock of itself, broaden its field of knowledge, feel the surge of the new freedom of life itself, and then take its rightful place and lead—not "just go along."

I realize that the average architect does not have the opportunity to perform the grand opus. Some of us haven't the background, the education, the vision nor the will, but we can all adhere to the eternal fitness of things. The profession as a whole can slowly blend from a palette of politics, economics, religion, and art an understanable picture of life. I believe this is possible.

Now that the chip is gone and I have delivered the diatribe I must apoligize for its length and disconnected thots.

Allow me to report to you that the Montana Chapter is scattered to the four winds, doing their bit in the war program. There are only four of us left in the State. Most are on a salary basis and getting by in good order, and they all report of the splendid opportunity it has been to learn new methods and new ideas. We, as a Chapter, look forward to a profitable post-war era.

I am indeed sorry that none from this Chapter were able to go to the last convention. We have missed out on national committee appointments perhaps for this reason. That is right, as those who are available should have the work to do.

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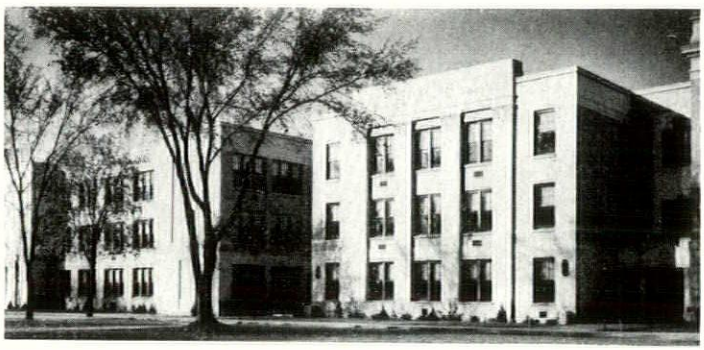
OGDENSBURG

The design of the Ogdensburg Schools involved the formation of an educational group. The nucleous of this group was the present Ogdensburg Academy and grounds to which was added additional land through the purchase of the old Fair grounds, which provided ample space for the new building and an athletic field and other outdoor activities.



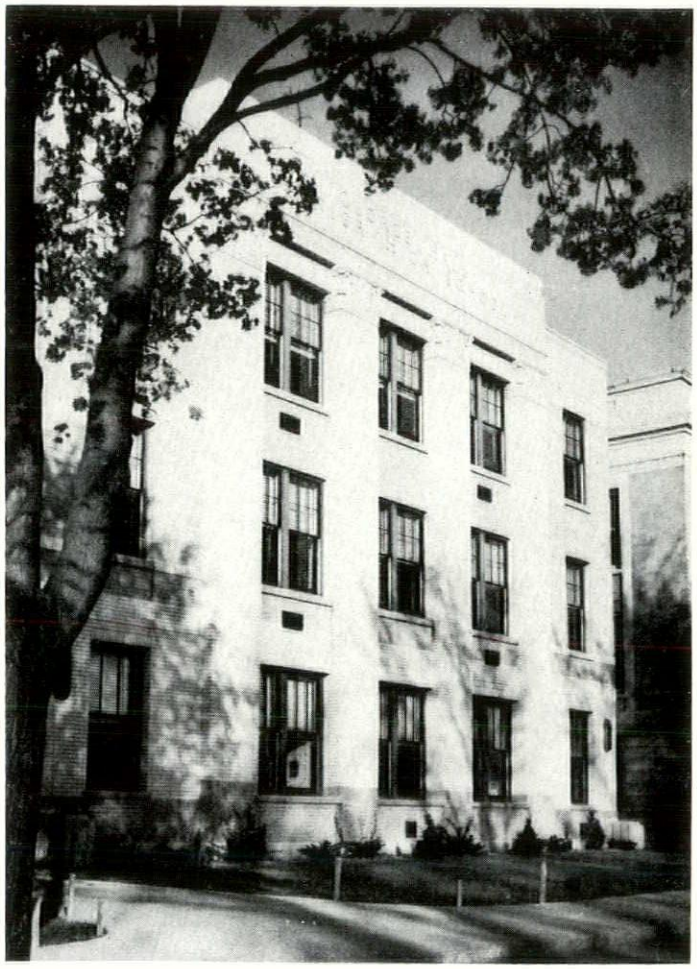
The building program consisted of the construction of a Trade School and an Elementary and Junior High School, and the inclusion of a gymnasium and auditorium unit to serve the three separate organizations.

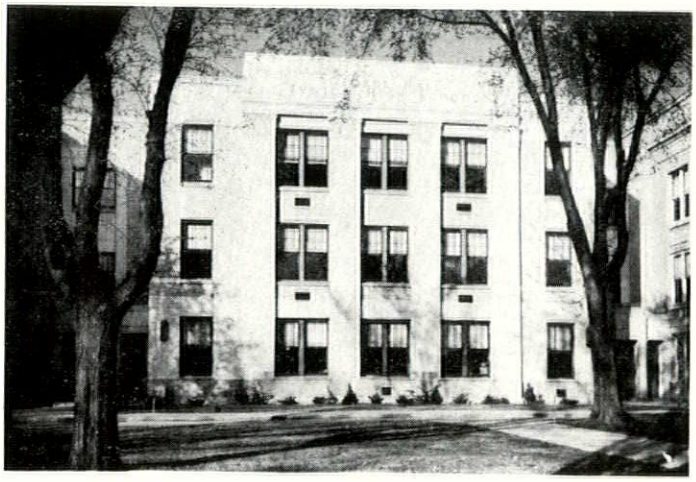
In order to provide satisfactory circulation and the common use of various facilities without cross traffic, the center unit consists of the auditorium-gymnasium, together with their accessory rooms and the administrative offices and the library. The Auditorium-Gymnasium unit is of the type in which the auditorium seating becomes available to the Gymnasium by opening a folding partition across the rear of the stage. The gymnasium floor is 80′-0″ wide by 70′-0″ deep and is further sub-divided by sliding partitions for school activities and separate of boys and girls spaces. The auditorium has seating capacity for 1116 people, which together with seats in the gymnasium proper provides for about 2000 people at basket-ball or other events.

The George Hall Trade School unit was financed through funds provided in the will of the late George Hall. The facilities provide for vocational training in all of the usual branches and trades. This school has been operating on an almost "round the clock" schedule since the war started, training men for various war activities.

The Elementary and Junior High School is a large three story structure accommodating about 680 Junior High students and 320 elementary students, together with special rooms for kindergarten, sewing, drawing, laboratory and rest-room accommodations.

The whole group is designed in the form of an H, in which the cross member incorporates the gymnasium-auditorium and the heating plant and is directly accessible from any of the other divisions.



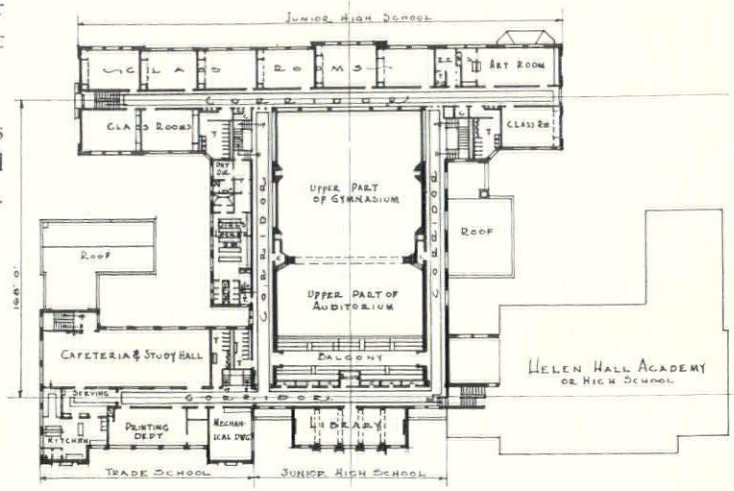


SCHOOLS

Construction is fireproof. The Trade School cost 31c per cubic foot and the Elementary and Junior High School 34c per cubic foot.

The cost of the Trade School, exclusive of equipment, was $160,000.00, and the Elementary and Junior High School $415,000.00, 45% of which was provided by P.W.A. funds.

RANDALL & VEDDER
Architects



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

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AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

By D. KENNETH SARGENT, *Chairman*
Sub-Committee on Safety in Housing

For one year the New York State Department of Health, thru its division of Public Health Education, has been actively engaged in a campaign to limit the number of accidents occurring in the homes and on the farm. This action taken by the Health Department was required because of the seriousness of the death rate due to accidents in the home and on the farm.

Most of us do not realize that in 1941, 31,500 people died and 4,700,000 were injured as a result of home accidents. Compare this to the much publicized 40,000 deaths due to motor vehicles. In 1941 in New York State 3,251 people lost their lives in the home while automobile accidents took a toll of only 2,642 that year!

The strain on the manpower of our Country should urge us to immediate action to eliminate the waste due to absenteeism in industry due to home accidents. Any home accident reduces our effort in the war, as it reduces man hours of labor and wastes vast sums of money.

The architectural profession is not exactly responsible for this accident rate, but it should recognize the seriousness of the situation and cooperate with the agencies set up to aid in affecting a reduction in this toll of death and disability. The Health Department expects to carry on education programs concerning safety in the home for an indefinite period. We as professionals should assist in this work as many other agencies and groups are doing, even though the percentage of new homes designed by Architects is small in comparison to the new homes built yearly.

It would seem that this is the opportune time for the profession to enter into a campaign of this type while building and the work of the architectural profession is at low ebb; for when building resumes its normal place in the economic life of the country there will be no time to spend on the ground-work organization of such a campaign.

In order to affect a real reduction in home accidents, the Division of Public Health Education, under its director Mr. B. R. Richards, established an Advisory Committee on Farm and Home Safety. This Advisory Committee made up of the Chairman of the various Sub-Committees directs the program as a whole. To provide for the necessary contribution of the Architectural Profession, a sub-committee called the Committee on Safety in Housing was set up at the suggestion of Professor L. C. Dillenbach of Syracuse University. This Committee made up largely of Architects from various parts of the State has been working on organization and the method of participation by the Architect in this program.

It is the opinion and wish of the members of this Committee that The American Institute of Architects and the New York State Association of Architects thru their affiliates take active part in this campaign. To this end Charles Rockwell Ellis, president of the New York State Association of Architects and a member of the State Committee, has been requested to appoint a Committee on Safety in Housing for the State Association, the members of which act as chairmen of the various committees on Safety in Housing of the various Societies. This is the first step toward realization of an active organization working for Safety.

What will be the function of these local Committees? This entire program as set up for the State by Mr. Richards is so large an inclusion of organizations that our local committee will find plenty of opportunity for service not only to the profession but to the community at large.

It is planned that numerous organizations will desire the aid of speakers and will call upon the local committees for technically versed instructors who can point out the hazards of the homes, giving general advice upon procedure for removal or safe-guarding these hazards. This will give the profession an opportunity for community service which will bring it in touch with new groups of people and bring new prestige to architects; an activity which the architects as a group have been too slow to use in the past. We have been "asleep at the switch" in not being active in Community affairs.

The State Health Department constantly uses the radio for educational programs. The architect will be brought in for "Safety in Housing" interviews, an activity for the local committees in the larger centers. If properly used, this will offer the profession radio publicity.

The educational activities outlined will undoubtedly result in some activity for the profession. Much of the existing housing now in use is in need of medernization and maintenance, an opportunity to eliminate existing hazards.

The work of the local Committees on Safety in Housing should not be limited to public education on Safety in Housing. The profession itself could well afford a little "brush up" and reminder on the principles of Safety Planning. We all err occasionally and resort to details we well know are not entirely safe for the occupants, because of owners' demands of reduced budget.

Experience in the field of industrial safety has demonstrated the necessity of constant reminders of those who are responsible for the safety of employees, in order to reruce industrial accidents. We architects need this constant stimulus to keep the importance of Safety Planning before us.

The State Committee on Safety in Housing will provide material for use of the local committees. Frequent short papers on various phases of Safety Planning will aid the practitioner and keep him conscious of the necessity of planning for Safety.

A very definite aid for the local committees will be the publication of detailed check-lists showing where accidents occur in housing. Within a few months, based upon present active research, some data will be made available as to the causes of home accidents, a subject not little known.

The necessity of securing some legislation to limit the builder in this housing field is now suggested in the profession. At the same time, there is definite possibility that the State Advisory Committee of the State Health Department will suggest some legislation to require safer detailed homes. Here is an opportunity for concerted effort with the other subcommittees to better the position of the Architect in the field of low-cost housing with the aid of those outside the profession.

If we will avail ourselves of opportunities such as this to serve and cooperate, substituting activity for the moaning and bewailing of the position of the profession, we will not find it necessary to much longer weep over the predicament of the Architect. What we all need is more activity and aggressiveness and less self-pity.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Since release of the Editorial matter for the January-February issue of the *Empire State Architect*, communications have been addressed to several of our membership which have prompted three replies appearing in this issue. It is regreted that owing to limited space the entire context of all of the communications cannot be published.

The Architect and The Engineer

I inquire why we should not have a complete change in the relationship between the architect and the engineer? Why persist in an attitude of competition instead of in one of a colaboration which would seem natural.

Both are technicians, trained to operate in the same field. One group has developed certain abilities more than others, and vice versa. Yet the fully trained architect has been taught the essentials of engineering, and on the other hand, the fully trained engineer undoubtedly has had considerable training in overall planning. Both, if they have gotten beyond the draftsman stage, have administrative ability in the same field. Some, in both groups, have horse sense.

Why shouldn't they get together and form an organized whole, implementing and colaborating with each other? Why a separate license as an architect or as an engineer? And, finally why not a combined EMPIRE STATE ASSOCIATION of ARCHITECTS and ENGINEERS?

Here comes the first brick, with the card of one who assays himself an esthete. Oh, am I glad now that I know of a bomb-shelter near my house.

Sincerely, GEORGE A. BOEHM.

Mortgages on Private Homes

In reply to your question:—Will the large purchases and holdings of Government securities on the part of all private financial institutions leave money available out of idle funds for mortgage on the private home?

In general the private financial institutions have increased their investments in Government securities since 1941 by 28% and decreased their other investments by 24%.

In 1943 the gross public debt was 46% over that of 1942. It is estimated that in 1944 gross public debt will be 60% over 1943. This illustrates the trend of investments in Government securities over other private investments of the banks. My observation of the statements of various banks and insurance companies follow closely this trend.

The Government must borrow to meet the difference between its income and its spending, and its resources are from the banks and other financial institutions. They in turn must purchase Government securities to keep the Government from recourse to the printing press, which will deflate the purchasing power of the dollar.

If incomes shall drop and taxes increase the deficits will correspondingly increase with larger demands upon the financial institutions to take up the slack. The deposits from private corporations and individuals will be reflected by their income.

If the Federal and State Governments shall finance home building, the bonds issued by them will have to be purchased by these same institutions. Can the increase from wealth and incomes gained by the production of new durable commodities keep pace with the needs of the Governments? Will the income of the people sufficiently increase to provide the money necessary to finance the Govrnments and leave enough to build, rehabilitate or repair homes? This answer is still in the future.

M. L. KING.

Are All Men Created Equal?

Yes, and in unity there is strength. These two facts to which we all should subscribe in our various endeavors, seem to be woefully lacking in our Profession and I cannot conceive of a more disorganized group of Professional men than are the Architects. It is apparent that there are those of the Profession who do not feel that some fellow Architects are their equal and until the time comes when this feeling is changed and there is an all inclusive Society or Association of the members of the Profession, there is not going to be any great strength for lack of unity. An Architects' Association should be for every Architect who has a right to practice and it should not be necessary for an eligible man to apply for membership, but on the contrary, the Association should demand that be become a member. The Society should be all-inclusive to the extent that it should be the duty of every member to sell the idea of membership to the Architect on the outside in order to get him within the folds and control of the Association. Until this is done we will continue to be a disorganized, unhappy and weak group.

Why is our's a poor paid Profession? Is it lack of cooperation, lack of unity, lack of ability, lack of leadership, lack of public recognition, or lack of organization? You know the answer. It is lack of organization or an organization of the proper kind. How many of us have made a decent living? How many of us have been able or will be able to quit at a reasonable quitting age and enjoy the fruits of our labors? Damned few. Unless we get together and rid this Profession of whatever is keeping the majority of us down, many of us will continue to work for starvation fees. What causes price cutting? Lack of proper organization. Why were Architects looked upon as "unnecessary evils" in Washington when the juicy jobs were cut? Lack of proper organization. Why are we not properly recognized locally, state wide and nationally? Lack of proper organization.

G. MORTON WOLFE.

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AMONG THE CONSTITUENTS

BROOKLYN SOCIETY

On January 27, 1943 the Brooklyn Society of Architects held its 15th Annual Meeting at which time the newly elected Officers for 1943 were duly and officially installed. The meeting commenced with a stimulating Cocktail after which we were served a delicious dinner. Maxwell A. Cantor acted as Toastmaster and James "F. H. A." Bly installed the Officers. There being no candidate in the field for the office of President on the night of Election last December, the Board of Directors filled the vacancy with the appointment of the Hon. Alfred A. Lama (who incidentally has just concluded serving two terms) as President. Arnold W. Lederer becomes our new Recording Secretary and Vito P. Battista was elected to the Board of Directors. All other Officers having the right brand of cigars, were re-elected. At the conclusion of the installation ceremonies a few timely subjects seriously affecting the Architectural profession were brought before the audience for its careful consideration. These included, "federalization and the private practitioner", "fees and the vanishing point", and "post-war planning."

NEW YORK SOCIETY

The membership of the society is up in arms in opposition to the famous Dolinger and Archinal Bills in Albany and to date the membership has made a very fine showing in contacting its Albany representatives in a concerted effort to have these bills definitely killed.

The society's "Year Book For 1943" which has gained such nation wide renown comes off the press on March 23.

Some seventy members of the architectural organizations in this area paid tribute to Capt. M. W. Del Gaudio upon his entrance into the armed forces at a luncheon at the Architectural League. Good luck to him and all the other boys in the service!

"Bob" Teichman, our president, continues in his most efficient manner to provide interesting meetings for the membership.

NEW YORK CHAPTER

Membership of the chapter continues to increase with fourteen candidates for admission to the institute in one month.

Mr. William Church Osborn, noted lawyer of New York and President of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, has been elected to honorary associate membership.

The chapter is taking active part in legislation with Charles Platt as the new chairman of the legislative committee.

BRONX SOCIETY

Our meetings are still interesting and efficiently conducted by "Tom" Dunn.

"Sam" Hertz, our secretary, keeps the boys informed constantly as to the "goings on" about town.

A great many members of the society are now engaged in war work and we hope for their early return to the fold.

QUEENS SOCIETY

Raymond Irrera, the president, is suffering from an unfortunate accident. Notwithstanding all this "Ray" still keeps plugging for the society and presided over its last meeting.

The society is taking active interest in legislative matters and in spite of the lean times we are still getting a laugh or two.

The March meeting was very encouraging in the turnout. Keep up the good work!

Oswald Fischer, our financial secretary, is doing a splendid job handling the finances of the society.

"Si Heller, our past president, serving the Navy somewhere in the south pacific, has finally found that there is a place for the architect in this war; even though, it is in the south pacific serving with the Navy.

WESTCHESTER SOCIETY

George Boehm has relinquished the gavel and the new officers elected by the membership are as follows: President, O. J. Gette; Vice-President, Louis Levine; Secretary, Frederick H. Voss; Treasurer, Angelo M. Riccio.

Our new president has taken the theme of post-war planning and the position of the architect after the war seriously and stresses the urgent need for closer cooperation with all other architectural organizations so that concerted action on behalf of the architect can be taken.

News is constantly received from our members in distant points and it is always welcome.

CENTRAL N. Y. CHAPTER

The Central New York Chapter of the A.I.A. at the annual meeting of the chapter in January, elected the following officers: President, Robert T. Bickford, Elmira; Vice-President, Leon A. Waasdorp, Rochester; Treasurer, Harry A. King, Syracuse; Secretary, Walter A. Taylor, Syracuse.

Announcement has been received from the Octagon of the elevation of Professor L. C. Dillenback to the rank of Fellow of the Institute in recognition of his work as an educator and on behalf of the profession.

Announcement was made of the resignation of Clement R. Newkirk as Regional Director of the Institute for the New York District. This was necessitated by his acceptance of a government position in Adrian, Michigan. Mr. George B. Cummings of Binghamton has been elected by the Board of Directors of the Institute to serve as director for the remainder of Mr. Newkirk's term. Mr. Cummings spoke at the annual meeting of the Central New York Chapter and reported on the affairs of the Institute, especially the Board of Director's meeting in Pittsburgh.

Professor D. K. Sargent, a member of the chapter, spoke on the participation of architects in the campaign to promote Safety in Housing under the general auspices of the National Safety Council.

The following new members of the American Institute of Architects have been assigned to the Central New York Chapter: Mr. Rolling Henry Burden, Syracuse, N. Y.; Miss Helen Chittenden Gillespie, Syracuse, N. Y.; Mr. Paul Brockway Sweeney, Syracuse, N. Y.; Mr. Thomas Lyon White, Syracuse, N. Y.; Mr. Charles Rockwell Ellis, Syracuse, N. Y.

WALTER A. TAYLOR, *Secretary*.

LEGISLATION

The Legislature went to its well earned rest Friday, March 26th, at 10 P.M., and left in the lap of the Governor some 500 Bills, (4000 were introduced) which within 30 days he signs or vetos or else they become law. All others are dead ducks. This late Session was concerned primarily with the prosecution of the War and certain legal adjustments resulting therefrom. And yet, strange to explain, our perennials blossomed almost as usual, as you will note later on under the list of "died in Committee", or "expired in the Session", showing that even with a depleted strong box, we must always continue our vigilance or be willing to have our fields of usual practice continually diminished through foreign encroachment.

The most important Bill on the Governor's desk, is the Post-War Planning Bill. It creates a Commission of seven members, four appointed by him, including the Chairman, and three jointly by the Senate and Assembly leaders. The Commission is blest with a $3,000,000 fund. All projects must be submitted to the Commission for approval, after which funds may be allocated for the preparation of the plans and specifications. The State will pay not more than 4% of the estimated construction cost in the case of State owned projects, and up to one-half that amount on projects of political sub-divisions. Private practitioners may be engaged by the State on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Public Works. The larger part of the program will be in propects of the sub-divisions, cities, towns, boards, etc., which will engage their own architests.

Your Committee approved this Bill and wishes to thank the men with the know-how who have struggled with this Bill's phrases since last summer. Under this Bill, the Commission can accept grants, from the Federal Government increasing their $3,000.00.

Biennial architects' registration fee of $4.00 instead of annual will be a convenience. (SI-1357-Young.)

A resident, who after ten years is not a citizen, shall have his license terminated. In same Bill, an applicant shall submit eight years experience, including college, before taking a written and an additional oral examination. Without college, the same examination shall be taken, but after twelve years experience. (AI-1853-Milmoe.)

Repealing Sec. 278, Pav. 10 Labor Law, thereby allowing, under certain conditions, increased occupancy and confering on Board powers. (AI-1497-Washburn.)

Industrial Board in Rules to specify places of public assembly; and includes establishments where food, drink, entertainment is furnished for gain, and where 100 or more assemble; Churches, etc. excluded. (AI-1312-Todd.)

Harmonizes State and local laws, etc. (AI-1917-Rules Comm.)

Extends M D April 18, 1929, to three years after War under certain conditions . (SI-864-Falk.)

Defers compliance M D L to July 1, 1944, under certain conditions. (AI-859-Mitchell.) Makes sweeping concessions in MDL where occupied and supervised by Federal armed forces; expires July 1, 1944. (AI-294-Morrissey.)

In T H rooms, 80 sq. ft. need be only 7½ ft. high, and any rooms may be 7½ ft. high. (SI-1058-Burney.)

Group Savings Banks, 20, may invest FHA mortgages in adjoining State, under certain restrictions. (AI-1436-Stephens.)

Authorities, payment to municipality, §52. Pr. A. 2191. By Mr. Emma—A. 1890.

Loan notes, temporary, time limit, §41. Pr. A. 2134. By Mr. Catenaccio—A.1833.

Loans, temporary, state bonds, §70. Pr. A. 1398. By Mr. Lamula—A. 1241.

Purchases, authority, govt. agency, §151. Pr. A. 1399. By Mr. Lamula—A. 1242.

Housing authority, Cheektowaga, §1279 new. Pr. S. 1450. By Mr. Burney—S. 1253.

Housing authority, Rotterdam, §1274 new. Pr. A. 1476. By Mr. Armstrong—A. 1316.

Post war planning funds: Mortgage revolving fund, transfer. Pr. A. 1823. By Mr. Mofatt—A. 1601.

Savings Banks may lend on owner occupied residence, two years old, monthly repayments, etc. (AI-1437-Stephens.) Also Savings Banks may loan on mortgages in adjoining State, if within 25 miles, etc., under certain percentage values. (SI-1262-Williamson.)

Unused Housing money, not immediately required, may be invested by Authority of State Comptroller, as other State funds are invested. (SI-1417-Coudert.)

Validates permits for buildings in city street bed, under certain conditions. (SI-1525-Greenberg.)

Requires health, education, mental hygiene, correction, Social Welfare Department to submit to Governor for approval, basic plot plan for development of each site, showing existing and proposed conditions and buildings. (AI-1395-Moffat.)

The Governor has already signed these Bills; thereby they become law.

Chapter 116, A-672, A-710, Pillion. R A renewals of inductees extended to July 1, 1944.

Chapter 61, S-178, S-177, Desmond. Housing, to July 1, 1944.

Chapter 62, S-176, S-339, Desmond. Housing, uncompleted, tax exempt, July 1, 1944.

Chapter 60, S-177, S-178, Desmond. Waives M D rules to July 1, 1944.

Chapter 28, H-267, H-658, Wright. Housing, Life Ins. Co., etc. to Dec. 1, 1949.

Of significant importance were the Bills killed in Committee. There were the two Civil Service Bills which restricted the planning, designing of projects to the Civil Service employees, when such projects—municipal or State—were paid for wholly or in part by public money. (AI-305-Dollinger: AI-959-Archinal.)

Also we were to be restricted further—for none but attorneys could appear before any government agency, boards, etc., nor could we purchase or fill in law blanks. Attention please—AIA document Dept. (AI-1093-Glancy.)

The high standard of Architects, so carefully built up, was to be toppled over at one sweep by giving R.A.'s (and M.D.'s etc.) to men without training or professional experience, because they had been in the armed services. (AI-641-Glancy.)

These Bills expired in the Session: If any architect is interested in the details of the following Bills, I will mail him an abstract. $150,000,000 Housing. (SI-283-Desmond.) All multiple dwelling over 40'0" high, etc. shall be fireproof. (SI-572-Desmond.) It would be a misdeameanor to maintain a revolving door as a required exit, without 50% additional swinging doors at each side. Effective January 1st, 1945. (SI-769-Halpern.) Include, under Labor Law, architectural draftsmen as "workmen". (SI-1534-Halpern.) Frame building, three stories or under, may be M D under certain conditions. (AI-1860-Molinari.) Temporary P.E. for certain Civil Service in highway work. (SI-572-Desmond.)

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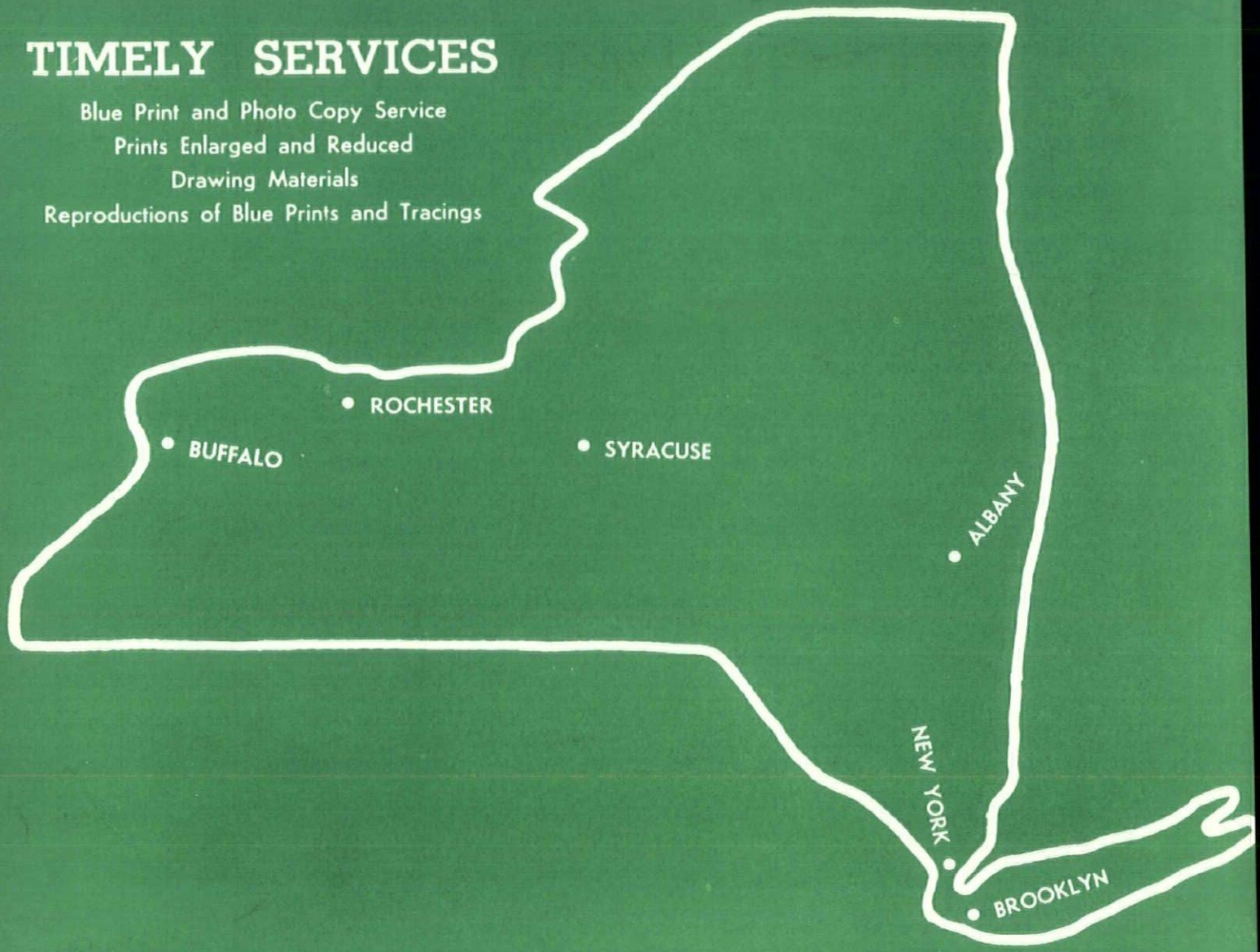

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